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EXAMINER

MARSH, OLIVIA MARIE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2617

DATE MAILED: 08/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/767,909

Applicant(s)

HALSELL, VICTORIA M.

Examiner

Olivia Marsh

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 May 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s), _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 9-15, 19-25 and 31-36 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 6, 8, 16-18, 26, 27, 29 and 30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-5, 7 and 28 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-2, 4, 6, 8, 18 and 26-30 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-2, 6, 8, 26-27, and 29-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tewani *et al* (U.S. 6,259,783 B1) in view of Maupin *et al* (U.S. 5,953,663 A) in further view of Ashdown *et al* (U.S. 6,625,273 B1).

As to claim 1, Tewani discloses:

A method of relating a directory number (DN) to a station (B) in a network for an incoming call from a calling party using a calling party device (A) to a called party using the station (B), wherein the directory number is associated with a first switching center (110) and service to the station is associated with a second switching center (150) (column 3, lines 50-59; column 5, lines 18-24), the method including the steps:

a) the first switching center querying a local number portability data storage device (**cache 100**), in lieu of querying an external number portability database (**140**), for stored routing information associated with the directory number and time information associated with a time when a previous number portability query associated with the directory number returned the stored routing information (**column 5, lines 31-40**);

b) receiving a return result from the local number portability data storage device (**column 5, lines 41-42**);

c) determining if the return result from the local number portability data storage device includes the stored routing information (**column 5, lines 65-67**);

d) determining if the stored routing information is expired by determining if the time information associated with the stored routing information exceeds a first predetermined time threshold (**column 6, lines 1-7**); and

e) if the return result from the local number portability data storage device includes the stored routing information and if the stored routing information is not expired, forwarding the incoming call and the stored routing information to the second switching center, wherein the stored routing information associates the directory number with the second switching center (**column 5, lines 45-51**).

Tewani discloses everything as stated above; however, Tewani fails to disclose the station is a mobile station and the first and second switching centers are mobile switching centers. The Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Maupin.

In an analogous art, Maupin teaches the station is a mobile station and the first and second switching centers are mobile switching centers (**column 1, lines 16-18; column 4, lines**

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49-53; column 8, lines 17-20; column 8, lines 26-28; column 8, lines 33-35; column 8, lines 41-45; column 9, lines 1-4; column 9, lines 15-21).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the method, the first switching center, the second switching center, and the station, all taught by Tewani, the station is a mobile station, the network is a wireless network, the first switching center is a mobile switching center, and the second switching center is a mobile switching center, as taught by Maupin, in order to reduce the number of queries performed to the centralized database to reroute incoming signals to the current PLMN or PSTN serving a ported telecommunications terminal.

Tewani and Maupin teaches everything as stated above and Tewani also teaches entries may have been in the cache for such a period of time that statistically they are no longer reliable and are therefore treated as invalid pieces of information (column 5, lines 66-67; column 6, lines 1-2). However, neither Tewani nor Maupin teach the time information is associated with a *date* and time. The Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Ashdown.

In an analogous art, Ashdown teaches the time information is associated with a *date* and time (column 3, lines 50-52; column 4, lines 34-37; column 7, lines 13-15).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the method, the first switching center, the second switching center, and the station, all taught by Tewani, the station is a *mobile station*, the network is a *wireless network*, the first switching center is a *mobile switching center*, and the second switching center is a *mobile switching center*, as taught by Maupin, the time information is associated with a *date and time*, as taught by Ashdown, in order to minimized the number of number portability queries in a telecommunications system.

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As to **claim 2**, Tewani, Maupin, and Ashdown teach everything as stated above in claim 1 and Tewani further discloses:

- f) if the stored routing information is expired, querying the external number portability database for current routing information associated with the directory number (**column 6, lines 10-12**);
- g) receiving a return result from the external number portability database (**column 6, line 13**);
- h) determining if the return result from the external number portability database includes the current routing information (**column 6, lines 13-16**);
- i) if the return result from the external number portability database includes the current routing information, forwarding the incoming call and the current routing information to the second switching center, wherein the current routing information associates the directory number with the second switching center (**column 6, lines 19-25**); and
- j) storing the current routing information and time information associated with a time when the associated number portability query was performed in the local number portability data storage device in relation to the directory number (**column 6, lines 26-30**).

However, Tewani fails to teach the second switching center is a *mobile* switching center. The Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Maupin.

Maupin also teaches the second switching center is a *mobile* switching center (column 8, lines 62-64).

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the method, the first switching center, the second switching center, and the station, all taught by Tewani, the second switching center is a *mobile* switching center, as taught by Maupin, in order to reduce the number of queries performed to the centralized database to reroute incoming signals to the current PLMN or PSTN serving a ported telecommunications terminal.

Tewani and Maupin teach everything as stated above and Tewani also teaches the cache entry is designated as a valid entry and is considered as such for some set period of time (column 5, lines 66-67; column 6, lines 1-2). However, neither Tewani nor Maupin specifically teach the time information associated with a *date* and time. The Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Ashdown.

Ashdown also teaches the time information associated with a *date* and time (column 7, lines 13-15).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the method, the first switching center, the second switching center, and the station, all taught by Tewani, the second switching center is a *mobile* switching center, as taught by Maupin, the time information associated with a *date* and time, as taught by Ashdown, in order to minimized the number of number portability queries in a telecommunications system.

As to **claim 6**, Tewani, Maupin, and Ashdown teach everything as stated above in claim 1 and Tewani further discloses:

f) if the return result from the local number portability data storage device does not include the stored routing information, querying an external number portability database for current routing information associated with the directory number **(column 6, lines 10-12);**

- g) receiving a return result from the external number portability database
(column 6, line 13);
- h) determining if the return result from the external number portability database includes the current routing information (column 6, lines 13-16);
- i) if the return result from the external number portability database includes the current routing information, forwarding the incoming call and the current routing information to the second switching center, wherein the current routing information associates the directory number with the second switching center (column 6, lines 19-25); and
- j) storing the current routing information and time information associated with a date and time when the associated number portability query was performed in the local number portability data storage device in relation to the directory number (column 6, lines 26-30).

However, Tewani fails to teach the second switching center is a *mobile* switching center. The Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Maupin.

Maupin also teaches the second switching center is a *mobile* switching center (column 8, lines 62-64).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the method, the first switching center, the second switching center, and the station, all taught by Tewani, the second switching center is a *mobile* switching center, as taught by Maupin, in order to reduce the number of queries performed to the centralized database to reroute incoming signals to the current PLMN or PSTN serving a ported telecommunications terminal.

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Tewani and Maupin teach everything as stated above and Tewani also teaches the cache entry is designated as a valid entry and is considered as such for some set period of time (column 5, lines 66-67; column 6, lines 1-2). However, neither Tewani nor Maupin specifically teach the time information associated with a *date* and time. The Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Ashdown.

Ashdown also teaches the time information associated with a *date* and time (column 7, lines 13-15).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the method, the first switching center, the second switching center, and the station, all taught by Tewani, the second switching center is a *mobile* switching center, as taught by Maupin, the time information associated with a *date* and time, as taught by Ashdown, in order to minimized the number of number portability queries in a telecommunications system.

As to **claim 8**, Tewani, Maupin, and Ashdown teach everything as applied in claim 1; however, Tewani fails to teach f) querying a home location register associated with the first mobile switching center for location information associated with the mobile station; g) receiving a return result from the home location register; and h) determining if the return result from the home location register includes the location information, wherein the return result from the home location register does not include the location information. However, the Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Maupin.

Maupin also teaches:

f) querying a home location register associated with the first mobile switching center for location information associated with the mobile station; (column 8, lines 33-38)

g) receiving a return result from the home location register; (column 8, lines 41-45)

h) determining if the return result from the home location register includes the location information; (column 8, lines 41-45).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the method, taught by Tewani, Maupin, and Ashdown, f) querying a home location register associated with the first mobile switching center for location information associated with the mobile station; g) receiving a return result from the home location register; and h) determining if the return result from the home location register includes the location information, wherein the return result from the home location register does not include the location information, as taught by Maupin, in order to reduce the number of queries performed to the centralized database to reroute incoming signals to the current PLMN or PSTN serving a ported telecommunications terminal.

As to **claim 18**, Tewani, Maupin, and Ashdown teach everything as applied in claim 1 and Tewani also teaches i) a timestamp reflecting an approximate date and time when the previous number portability query that returned the stored routing information for the directory number was performed, ii) a timestamp reflecting a date and time after which the stored routing information is considered expired by the first mobile switching center, and iii) a value reflecting an amount of time until the first mobile switching center considers the stored routing information expired (column 6, lines 1-7).

As to **claim 26**, Tewani discloses:

A telecommunication system (**FIG. 3**) for relating a directory number (**DN**) to a station (**B**) for an incoming call from a calling party using a calling party device (**A**) to a called party using the station, the telecommunication system including:
a first switching center (**100**) associated with the directory number
(column 5, lines 32-36);

a local number portability data storage device in communication with the first switching center (**column 5, lines 32-36**); and

a second switching center in operative communication with the first switching center and associated with service to the station (**column 5, lines 45-48**); and

the first switching center further including:

means for querying a local number portability data storage device, in lieu of querying an associated external number portability database (**140**), for stored routing information associated with the directory number and time information associated with a time when a previous number portability query associated with the directory number returned the stored routing information (**column 5, lines 31-40**);

means for receiving a return result from the local number portability data storage device (**column 5, lines 41-42**);

means for determining if the return result from the local number portability data storage device includes the stored routing information (**column 5, lines 65-67**);

means for determining if the stored routing information is expired by determining if the time information exceeds a first predetermined time threshold (**column 6, lines 1-7**); and

means for forwarding the incoming call and the stored routing information to the second mobile switching center if the return result from the local number portability data storage device includes the stored routing information and if the stored routing information is not expired,

wherein the stored routing information associates the directory number with the second mobile switching center (column 5, lines 45-51).

However, Tewani fails to teach the station is a *mobile station*, the network is a *wireless network*, the first switching center is a *mobile switching center*, and the second switching center is a *mobile switching center* and the service is a *wireless service*. The Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Maupin.

In an analogous art, Maupin teaches the station is a mobile station and the first and second switching centers are mobile switching centers (column 1, lines 16-18; column 4, lines 49-53; column 8, lines 17-20; column 8, lines 26-28; column 8, lines 33-35; column 8, lines 41-45; column 9, lines 1-4; column 9, lines 15-21).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the system, the first switching center, the second switching center, and the station, all taught by Tewani, the station is a mobile station, the network is a wireless network, the first switching center is a mobile switching center, and the second switching center is a mobile switching center, as taught by Maupin, in order to reduce the number of queries performed to the centralized database to reroute incoming signals to the current PLMN or PSTN serving a ported telecommunications terminal.

Tewani and Maupin teaches everything as stated above and Tewani also teaches entries may have been in the cache for such a period of time that statistically they are no longer reliable and are therefore treated as invalid pieces of information (column 5, lines 66-67; column 6, lines 1-2). However, neither Tewani nor Maupin teach the time information is associated with a *date* and time. The Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Ashdown.

In an analogous art, Ashdown teaches the time information is associated with a *date* and time (column 3, lines 50-52; column 4, lines 34-37; column 7, lines 13-15).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the system, the first switching center, the second switching center, and the station, all taught by Tewani, the station is a *mobile station*, the network is a *wireless network*, the first switching center is a *mobile switching center*, and the second switching center is a *mobile switching center*, as taught by Maupin, the time information is associated with a *date and time*, as taught by Ashdown, in order to minimized the number of number portability queries in a telecommunications system.

As to **claim 27**, Tewani, Maupin, and Ashdown teach everything as stated above in claim 26 and Tewani further discloses:

an external number portability database **(140)** in communication with the first switching center **(FIG. 3)**; and

the first switching center comprising:

means for querying the external number portability database for current routing information associated with the directory number if the stored routing information is expired **(column 6, lines 10-12)**;

means for receiving a return result from the external number portability database **(column 6, line 13)**;

means for determining if the return result from the external number portability database includes the current routing information **(column 6, lines 13-16)**;

means for forwarding the incoming call and the current routing information to the second switching center if the return result from the external

number portability database includes the current routing information, wherein the current routing information associates the directory number with the second switching center (**column 6, lines 19-25**); and means for storing the current routing information and time information associated with a time when the associated number portability query was performed in the local number portability data storage device in relation to the directory number (**column 6, lines 26-30**).

However, Tewani fails to teach the second switching center is a *mobile* switching center. The Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Maupin.

Maupin also teaches the second switching center is a *mobile* switching center (column 8, lines 62-64).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the system, the first switching center, the second switching center, and the station, all taught by Tewani, the second switching center is a *mobile* switching center, as taught by Maupin, in order to reduce the number of queries performed to the centralized database to reroute incoming signals to the current PLMN or PSTN serving a ported telecommunications terminal.

Tewani and Maupin teach everything as stated above and Tewani also teaches the cache entry is designated as a valid entry and is considered as such for some set period of time (column 5, lines 66-67; column 6, lines 1-2). However, neither Tewani nor Maupin specifically teach the time information associated with a *date* and time. The Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Ashdown.

Ashdown also teaches the time information associated with a *date* and time (column 7, lines 13-15).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the system, the first switching center, the second switching center, and the station, all taught by Tewani, the second switching center is a *mobile* switching center, as taught by Maupin, the time information associated with a *date* and time, as taught by Ashdown, in order to minimized the number of number portability queries in a telecommunications system.

As to **claim 6**, Tewani, Maupin, and Ashdown teach everything as stated above in claim 26 and Tewani further discloses:

an external number portability database **(140)** in communication with the first switching center **(FIG. 3)**; and

the first switching center comprising:

means for querying an external number portability database for current routing information associated with the directory number if the return result from the local number portability data storage device does not include the stored routing information **(column 6, lines 10-12)**;

means for receiving a return result from the external number portability database **(column 6, line 13)**;

means for determining if the return result from the external number portability database includes the current routing information **(column 6, lines 13-16)**;

means for forwarding the incoming call and the current routing information to the second switching center if the return result from the external

number portability database includes the current routing information, wherein the current routing information associates the directory number with the second switching center (column 6, lines 19-25); and means for storing the current routing information and time information associated with a date and time when the associated number portability query was performed in the local number portability data storage device in relation to the directory number (column 6, lines 26-30).

However, Tewani fails to teach the second switching center is a *mobile* switching center. The Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Maupin.

Maupin also teaches the second switching center is a *mobile* switching center (column 8, lines 62-64).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the method, the first switching center, the second switching center, and the station, all taught by Tewani, the second switching center is a *mobile* switching center, as taught by Maupin, in order to reduce the number of queries performed to the centralized database to reroute incoming signals to the current PLMN or PSTN serving a ported telecommunications terminal.

Tewani and Maupin teach everything as stated above and Tewani also teaches the cache entry is designated as a valid entry and is considered as such for some set period of time (column 5, lines 66-67; column 6, lines 1-2). However, neither Tewani nor Maupin specifically teach the time information associated with a *date* and time. The Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Ashdown.

Ashdown also teaches the time information associated with a *date* and time (column 7, lines 13-15).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the method, the first switching center, the second switching center, and the station, all taught by Tewani, the second switching center is a *mobile* switching center, as taught by Maupin, the time information associated with a *date* and time, as taught by Ashdown, in order to minimized the number of number portability queries in a telecommunications system.

As to **claim 30**, Tewani, Maupin, and Ashdown teach everything as applied in claim 26; however, Tewani fails to teach a home location register in communication with the first mobile switching center; and the first mobile switching center further including: means for querying the home location register associated with the first mobile switching center for location information associated with the mobile station; means for receiving a return result from the home location register; and means for determining if the return result from the home location register includes the location information, wherein the return result from the home location register does not include the location information. However, the Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Maupin.

Maupin also teaches:

a home location register (130) in communication with the first mobile switching center (column 8, lines 17-21);

the first mobile switching center further including:

means for querying the home location register associated with the first switching center for location information associated with the mobile station if the return result from the local number portability data storage device does not include the stored routing information (column 8, lines 33-38);

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means for receiving a return result from the home location register (column 8, lines 41-45);

means for determining if the return result from the home location register includes the location information (column 8, lines 41-45);

means for querying the number portability database for current routing information associated with the directory number if the return result from the home location register does not include the location information (column 8, lines 45-54).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the system, taught by Tewani, Maupin, and Ashdown, a home location register in communication with the first mobile switching center; and the first mobile switching center further including: means for querying the home location register associated with the first mobile switching center for location information associated with the mobile station; means for receiving a return result from the home location register; and means for determining if the return result from the home location register includes the location information, wherein the return result from the home location register does not include the location information, as taught by Maupin, in order to reduce the number of queries performed to the centralized database to reroute incoming signals to the current PLMN or PSTN serving a ported telecommunications terminal.

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4. **Claims 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tewani et al (U.S. 6,259,783 B1) in view of Maupin et al (U.S. 5953663 A) in view of Ashdown et al (U.S. 6625273 B1) in further view of Luis (U.S. 7054652 B2).**

As to claim 16, Tewani discloses:

A method of relating a directory number (DN) to a station (B) in a network for an incoming call from a calling party using a calling party device (A) to a called party using the station (B), wherein the directory number is associated with a first switching center (110) and service to the station is associated with a second switching center (150) (column 3, lines 50-59; column 5, lines 18-24), the method including the steps:

a) the first switching center querying a local number portability data storage device (cache 100), in lieu of querying an external number portability database (140), for stored routing information associated with the directory number and time information associated with a time when a previous number portability query associated with the directory number returned the stored routing information (column 5, lines 31-40);

b) receiving a return result from the local number portability data storage device (column 5, lines 41-42);

c) determining if the return result from the local number portability data storage device includes the stored routing information (column 5, lines 65-67);

d) determining if the stored routing information is expired by determining if the time information associated with the stored routing information exceeds a first predetermined time threshold (column 6, lines 1-7); and

e) if the return result from the local number portability data storage device includes the stored routing information and if the stored routing information is not expired, forwarding the incoming call and the stored routing information to the second switching center, wherein the stored routing information associates the directory number with the second switching center (**column 5, lines 45-51**).

Tewani discloses everything as stated above; however, Tewani fails to disclose the station is a mobile station and the first and second switching centers are mobile switching centers. The Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Maupin.

In an analogous art, Maupin teaches the station is a mobile station and the first and second switching centers are mobile switching centers (column 1, lines 16-18; column 4, lines 49-53; column 8, lines 17-20; column 8, lines 26-28; column 8, lines 33-35; column 8, lines 41-45; column 9, lines 1-4; column 9, lines 15-21).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the method, the first switching center, the second switching center, and the station, all taught by Tewani, the station is a mobile station, the network is a wireless network, the first switching center is a mobile switching center, and the second switching center is a mobile switching center, as taught by Maupin, in order to reduce the number of queries performed to the centralized database to reroute incoming signals to the current PLMN or PSTN serving a ported telecommunications terminal.

Tewani and Maupin teaches everything as stated above and Tewani also teaches entries may have been in the cache for such a period of time that statistically they are no longer reliable and are therefore treated as invalid pieces of information (column 5, lines 66-67; column 6, lines 1-2). However, neither Tewani nor Maupin teach the time information is associated with

a *date* and time. The Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Ashdown.

In an analogous art, Ashdown teaches the time information is associated with a *date* and time (column 3, lines 50-52; column 4, lines 34-37; column 7, lines 13-15).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the method, the first switching center, the second switching center, and the station, all taught by Tewani, the station is a *mobile station*, the network is a *wireless network*, the first switching center is a *mobile switching center*, and the second switching center is a *mobile switching center*, as taught by Maupin, the time information is associated with a *date and time*, as taught by Ashdown, in order to minimized the number of number portability queries in a telecommunications system.

However, neither Tewani, Maupin, nor Ashdown teach the time information is forwarded along with the stored routing information and the stored routing information and time information is forwarded to the second mobile switching center in a timed forward call indicator message. The Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Luis.

In an analogous art, Luis teaches the stored routing information and time information is forwarded to the second mobile switching center in a timed forward call indicator message (column 12, lines 1-10).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the method, the first switching center, the second switching center, and the station, all taught by Tewani, the station is a *mobile station*, the network is a *wireless network*, the first switching center is a *mobile switching center*, and the second switching center is a *mobile switching center*, as taught by Maupin, the time information is associated with a *date and*

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time, as taught by Ashdown, the stored routing information and time information is forwarded to the second mobile switching center in a timed forward call indicator message, as taught by Luis, supporting portability between different mobile or wireless systems.

As to **claim 17**, Tewani, Maupin, Ashdown, and Luis teach everything as applied in claim 16; however Tewani, Maupin, nor Ashdown teach wherein the timed forward call indicator message includes at least one of a local routing number segment, a called party number segment, a timed forward call indicator bit, and a time information segment, wherein the local routing number segment is based on the stored routing information, wherein the timed forward call indicator bit indicates stored routing information is provided in the timed forward call indicator message, wherein the time information segment is based on the time information associated with the stored routing information. The Examiner contends this feature was old and well known in the art at the time of invention as taught by Luis.

Luis also teaches the timed forward call indicator message includes at least one of a local routing number segment, a called party number segment, a timed forward call indicator bit, and a time information segment, wherein the local routing number segment is based on the stored routing information, wherein the timed forward call indicator bit indicates stored routing information is provided in the timed forward call indicator message, wherein the time information segment is based on the time information associated with the stored routing information (column 12, lines 1-10).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to require the method, the first switching center, the second switching center, and the station, all taught by Tewani, the station is a *mobile station*, the network is a *wireless network*, the first switching center is a *mobile switching center*, and the second switching center is a *mobile switching center*, as taught by Maupin, the time information is associated with a *date and*

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time, as taught by Ashdown, the stored routing information and time information is forwarded to the second mobile switching center in a timed forward call indicator message, as taught by Luis, the timed forward call indicator message includes at least one of a local routing number segment, a called party number segment, a timed forward call indicator bit, and a time information segment, wherein the local routing number segment is based on the stored routing information, wherein the timed forward call indicator bit indicates stored routing information is provided in the timed forward call indicator message, wherein the time information segment is based on the time information associated with the stored routing information, also taught by Luis, supporting portability between different mobile or wireless systems.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 3-5,7 and 28 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. Claims 9-15,19-25 and 31-36 allowed.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Olivia Marsh whose telephone number is 571-272-7912. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nick Corsaro can be reached on 571-272-7876. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



CHARLES APPIAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER